



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, New York State recognizes the dangers of teen dating violence, abuse, intimidation – and the alarmingly high reports of incidence – along with other harmful forms of behavior that threaten the safety and well-being of youth; and

Whereas, teen dating violence can involve physical, sexual, verbal, emotional, economic, technological, or other abusive behavior, including harassment via texting, emailing, direct messaging, or posting on social media; and

Whereas, the adolescent years present new challenges and personal choices for teens as they experience dating relationships for the first time, with 35% of teenagers engaging in a romantic relationship with a peer; and

Whereas, a significant number of high school students report being subjected to physical and/or sexual violence at the hands of their dating partner, whereby 1 in 5 female students and 1 in 10 male students have experienced physical and/or sexual dating violence in the last 12 months; and

Whereas, in addition, 43% of LGBTQ+ youth report physical abuse, 59% report emotional abuse, 37% report tech facilitated abuse, and 23% report sexual coercion; and

Whereas, among the adult population, 70% of those who identify as female and 60% of those who are identify as male report their first experience of violence before the age of 18; and

Whereas, the widespread use of digital devices, social networking, and other forms of electronic communication can lead to the violation of an individual's privacy through easy access to personal information, including financial and medical data, and 27% of teenagers report that they have had a partner track them by using social media; and

Whereas, New York State, through the Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence, provides education on teen dating violence and how it can be prevented, and will launch a Healthy Relationship quiz that allows participants to learn about healthy and unhealthy choices in intimate relationships; and

Whereas, young New Yorkers are this state and nation's future leaders, and ensuring their safety, well-being, and healthy growth into responsible adults is a priority we all share – it is important to be aware of signs of dating violence among teens and to prevent it from happening in the first place by instilling such values as respect, honor, trust, and kindness in all of our youth;

Now, Therefore, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim February 2024 as

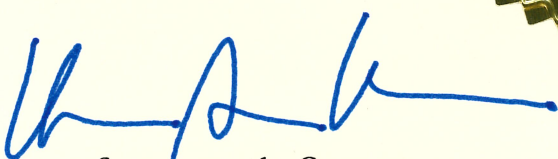
TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this sixth day of
February in the year two thousand twenty-four.

Kathy Hochul
Governor


Secretary to the Governor
Karen Persichilli Keogh